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Rhyme in Season

The time has come for Christmas shopping For counter after counter hopping, To buy a gift for all your dear ones, The far away ones and the near ones.

While ties have always made good giving. This year try something that is living. Though perfume always could enchant, Why not surprise them with a plant?

A fountain pen fulfills a duty, But only plants will grow in beauty, To quote old Nick, whose taste is super, A gift that grows is super duper.

G.F.H.

It's Time For . . .

Assembling last-minute winter color, planning spring beds, and becoming more familiar with our native ornamentals along with those imports which adapt themselves easily to our natural conditions.

Already displaying their tiny pink and red rosettes in mass profusion are the hybrid tea bushes, LEPTOSPERMUM Ruby Glow (double red), Sparkler (double pink), Keatleyi (single pink), and others, (\$1.25 and \$4) for hot sun, water and good drainage, long-lasting cut or in the landscape. Good company for the tea bushes, lower than most and harmonious in color, is SAL-VIA LEUCANTHA, the Flowering Sage, now covered with chenille-like spires of rosy purple, a semi-woody perennial needing the shears after each successive blooming; one gallon—85 cents. Slightly lower growing than the Flowering Sage, effective in the same grouping, is the almost ever-blooming STATICE (Limonium) PE-REZII, the lavender-blue Everlasting, with reddish foliage especially in winter, one gallon-95 cents. Add to this a few REIN-WARDTIA INDICA—the two foot yellow

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STEP INSIDE!

No Union Trouble

Although the subject of this column as a general rule is a plant for the garden, occasionally we will wish to bring to your attention some new plant of merit for indoor or conservatory culture. Such is the case with Philodendron Wendimbe, an excellent hybrid created only two years ago by the union of P. Wendlandi and P. Imbe. Philodendrons are now on the market in wide variety in all shapes, sizes and leaf patterns, but Philodendron Wendimbe is wholly distinct from all others.

First of all, this plant is not a climber but grows rather in the fashion of the "bird's nest" fern. Leaves are large and leathery, clean and simple in form, about three times as long as broad and radiate upward and outward from a central terminal. The structural pattern comes from one parent, Philodendron Wendlandi; leaf shape and coloring, bright green above and reddish beneath, from the other par-

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Hugh Evans

To dwell too much on the past is one of the indications of age though not necessarily of senility. In any event, when I recall the gardens of the eighteen-nineties and the early years of this century, I realize what a change has come over the scene, and that, while our gardens contain many beautiful plants today, plants which were not yet introduced then, a number of old plant friends are now only memories of the dim and remote past. Bignonia venusta which the botanist will have us call Pyrostegia ignea (not nearly so melodious a name) in the days of long ago used to drape buildings and walls with its ropes of brilliant glowing flowers in the winternow you may look a long time for it. On

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IT'S TIME FOR ...

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Winter Flax at \$1.25 and face all with PENTSTEMOM HETEROPHYLLA, blue, one and one half feet at 95 cents; lemon GAZANIA from flats, 75 cents a dozen; and you have a varying mass of color throughout winter and spring.

Partially shady areas between and in front of shrubbery can be conditioned with Humisite and Georgia peat and planted to CINERARIA, giant (two and one half feet) or short (one foot), separate colors (light and dark blue, pinks, white, maroon) in three-inch pots at \$3.60 a dozen; mixed colors in flats at 50 cents a dozen. In front of Cineraria set PRIMULA, either P. MALACOIDES for quick feathery bloom in deep rose, white or pastels; P. OBCONICA for somewhat larger, later, cerise and blue; or P. POLYANTHA, the golds, bronzes and deep blues of spring. In shady places where immediate strong color is desired, don't forget CYCLAMEN.

The six-months CAMELLIA season is with us again, and never have we had more or better five gallon plants at \$6 up. We refer you especially to a few we consider among the easiest and most adaptable—Finlandia and Joshua Youtz in white, Mrs. Howard Asper and C. M. Wilson in shell pink, Pope Pius and Col. Fiery in red, Emperor Wilhelm (Gigantea) and Aurora Borealis in variegated. In addition to these well-known Camellia, japonica hybrids we offer newer and better CAMEL-LIA SASANQUAS, the small-leaved halfvining species as good in sun as in shade, espaliered or an informal shrub. Jean May is a sensational new double shell pink sasanqua, Narumigata a lotus-like single in pink and white, \$3 to \$6 in one gallons.

Newly graded banks and uncovered hill-sides are going to be sliding soon. Even where superficially clothed with ground-covers you'd better get going some deep-rooting shrubs that eventually shift for themselves. Furthermore dry areas offer the garden possibilities in plant materials seldom satisfactory in the cultivated too-moist garden. ACACIA PODALYRIAEFOLIA (the Pearl), A. PENDULA, A. CULTRIFORMIS and A. VERTICILLATA add strong yellow to the winter landscape in such situations, with various SUMACS and ATRIPLEX in the more impossible places. Well drained lightly watered slopes may make use of the equally yellow CASSIA ARTEMISIOIDES, blue ECHIUM, pink buckwheat (ERIOGONUM), and all the

Hugh Evans

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a hot wall or roof it is a glorious thing; but it would be a mistake to start enumerating these loved and lost. It is a painful subject and would take too much space. The old Roses too: "Gold of Ophir"—

The old Roses too: "Gold of Ophir"—we had it climbing over our ranch house in San Diego County and in the old days there were plenty of these lovely Roses on old houses and barns, but where are they now? Many of the old Roses too, Marie Van Houtte for instance and many others, were unsurpassed for vigor and bloom, but I am treading on sacred ground and must retreat before I wound the sensibilities of

my Rose growing friends.

I cannot however avoid a slight and passing remonstrance against some of the Rose and Chrysanthemum awards made in the last few years. In spite of many of outstanding merit, quite a number of Roses and Chrysanthemums heralded with a great fanfare are already virtually forgotten. Only the other day I was regarding one of these Roses now fallen from its high estate. The poor thing had a shattered constitution and was hanging its head dejectedly as though with premonitions of impending doom.

And we should be grateful to the old gardeners for the palms they planted, now towering into the air and silhouetted against the skyline with such majesty and grace.

various DUSTY MILLERS so commonly and badly used in wet places. The tallest Dusty Miller has finely cut foliage of great beauty, cutting value and lavender blossoms on six-foot shrubs four feet across; a newer coarser cut-leaf from spills over retaining walls or makes a sprawling groundcover with really showy masses, yellow flowers, all 65 cents to 85 cents in one gallon.

Outstanding ornamentals of which we are fortunate in having a very few good specimens are DRIMYS WINTERI, a rare hardy evergreen tree of the Magnolia family with fragrant white flowers, \$2 and \$6; and an ABUTILON HYBRID with small green and white leaves and soft yellow flowers with dark red eye. This Abutilon is especially adapted to raised planting boxes in part shade, spilling over sloping shady banks or in pots—full-bloom specimens, five gallon cans at \$4.50.

P.E.C.

THE FRIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

As the sky darkens earlier each evening, sunlight giving way to the ever-festive show of auto, street and shop lights, and on occasional days the air hints of winter, suddenly there comes over the beholder in rapid succession the elating thought of the approaching holiday season, and then the stunning thought of the gift list yet blank. This year, let the stunning blow glance off, for Evans and Reeves, in inaugurating a holiday shopping service, is prepared to make this pre-yuletide the pleasantest in your memory.

COULD THIS BE AN EXCERPT FROM YOUR GIFT LIST?

Christmas Gifts

HARRISONS—no more playing cards; last year the display under their tree the day AFTER Christmas looked like a Nevada casino stockpile! Evans and Reeves has giant-growing OUTDOOR Philodendrons, gifts which live to be talked about and exclaimed over year after year.

AUNT SALLY—clothing? no! she buys what she wants, and doesn't want what she doesn't buy! But a handsome plant whose progress she can watch and encourage and TALK about should hit the spot! A Camellia for the garden or a fantastic-flowered (long-lasting too!) Bromeliad, Aechmea fasciata, for the house.

GRANDPA JONES—since he's retired it's hard to keep him pleasantly busy. How about some designed-for-use gardening tools to encourage healthy and rewarding activity?

CAMPBELLS—the last word in modern homes. A living "mobile" perhaps, in the form of a hanging basket of Laelia orchids for their lanai, gently moving sprays of glistening lavender orchids. A wonderful combination house and yuletide gift!

MILLERS—another plant for their long-established garden? We-e-II, how about a Staghorn Fern (more Staghorn than Fern!) to grow large and luxuriant on one of the Sycamores? . . .

Our salesmen, Santa's helpers all, will take your list of names, price limitations, specifications as to indoors, outdoors, tropical, seasonal, etc. and help you select, or select for you if other business prevents your presence, supervise the exquisite gift-wrapping, courteous delivery and, should your handwriting be strictly hen-scratches, provide suitable greetings inscribed in the style of Spencer. And, to top it off, if your holiday purchases exceed \$50, Evans and Reeves will send you, or the person you designate, a \$10 Cymbidium orchid at no extra charge!

So, avoid the crush, let us do your Christmas shopping for you early!











PHILODENDRON WENDIMBE . . .

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ent, Philodendron Imbe. P. Wendlandi is native to Costa Rica and is not frost hardy, P. Imbe (probably P. sanguinea masquerading under the name Imbe) comes from Southern Mexico and is a bit more resist-



ant to cold, enough to take sheltered patios for example. The result of this union, Wendimbe, profits therefore from the infusion of the hardier blood. Like nearly all plants grown indoors Philodendron Wendimbe flourishes best in direct ratio to the degree of light it receives, short of burning sun, directly through a window. North or East light is usually good, artificial light particularly from flourescent fixtures is of some assistance. Indoorly but not conservatorily speaking be careful not to over water. Greenhouses roughly seek the natural environment, relatively few homes do. Over simplified, water should be supplied in proportion to rate of growth. Unless your home's climate feels like the Matto Grosso take it easy with the watering pot and Philodendron Wendimbe as well as all your other indoor plants will fare much better. Priced from \$3.50 to \$6 it is a genuinely different Christmas gift. M.E.